(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Recruitment of candidates by Private sector through Employment Exchanges is not mandatory as such employers are free to use any convenient source of recruitment.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal to make it compulsory for all IT Companies to recruit candidates through Employment Exchanges.

Child labour in the country

† 977. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of child labourers in the country;

(b) the details of effective steps taken by Government for eradication of child labourer;

(c) whetner child labourer projects have been set up by Government; and

(d) if so, the number and details of child labourers benefited therefrom, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of number of child labour in the country. As per Census 2001, the number of child labourers in the country is 1.26 crore.

(b) to (d) In order to eliminate child labour, Government is implementing the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme. The NCLP Scheme envisages a sequential approach for the elimination of child labour starting with children working in most hazardous occupations to covering all forms of child labour. The Scheme of NCLP is being implemented in 250 districts of 20 States of the country. Under the scheme, children

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

withdrawn from work are put into the Special Schools where these children are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care etc. So far, 3.92 lakh children have been mainstreamed into formal education system. State-wise details of the children mainstreamed are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of children mainstreamed

S. No.	Name of States	Total
1".	Andhra Pradesh	179163
2.	Bihar	10935
3.	Chhattisgarh	4291
4.	Jharkhand	12464
5.	Karnataka	11589
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3519
7.	Maharashtra	7214
8.	Orissa	72653
9.	Rajasthan	11821
10.	Tamil Nadu	39834
11.	Uttar Pradesh	19842
12.	West Bengal	17517
13.	Punjab	1471
	GRAND TOTAL	392413

Free life insurance for unrecognised sector

† 978. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide free life insurance facility to workers of unorganized sector;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.